

## LIEUTENANT COLONEL TODD R. "BURT" LANCASTER

Lieutenant Colonel Todd R. "Burt" Lancaster is the Commander, 551<sup>st</sup> Special Operations Squadron, Kirtland AFB, New Mexico.



Raised in Idaho Springs, Colorado, Lieutenant Colonel Lancaster entered the Air Force in 1989 as a graduate of the United States Air Force Academy. He completed pilot training at Reese AFB, Lubbock, TX, and remained at Reese AFB as a T-37 Instructor Pilot. In 1994, Lieutenant Colonel Lancaster cross trained to special operations helicopters and flew the MH-53 J/M PAVELOW at Hurlburt Field, Florida; Osan AB, Republic of Korea; and RAF Mildenhall, United Kingdom. In 2002, he attended Air Command and Staff College at Maxwell AFB, AL. His first staff job was Aide-de-Camp to General Ralph E. "Ed" Eberhart, Commander, North American Aerospace Defense Command and U.S. Northern Command, Peterson Air Force Base, Colorado.

Lieutenant Colonel Lancaster served throughout the world, conducting special operations in Bosnia, Korea, Europe, Africa, South and East Asia, and on the high seas. A senior pilot, he has logged more than 2700 flying hours, primarily in special operations helicopters and trainer aircraft, including 35 combat hours as a special operations pilot.

### EDUCATION

1989 Bachelor of Science in Political Science, U.S. Air Force Academy, Colorado Springs, CO  
1997 Master's of Arts in Educational Leadership, NW Florida University, FL  
1997 Squadron Officer School, by correspondence and residence, Distinguished Graduate  
2002 Air Command and Staff College, by correspondence and residence

### ASSIGNMENTS

1. September 1989 - September 1990, Student, Undergraduate Pilot Training, Air Training Command, Reese AFB, TX
2. October 1990 - February 1991, Student, Instructor Pilot Training, Distinguished Graduate, Randolph AFB, TX
3. February 1991 - Jun 1994, T-37 Instructor Pilot, Standardization and Evaluation Officer, 33<sup>rd</sup> Flying Training Squadron, Reese AFB, TX
4. June 1994 - August 1994, Student, Rotary Wing Transition Course, Ft. Rucker, AL
5. August 1994 - July 1995, Student, MH-53J Initial Qualification, Kirtland AFB, NM
6. July 1995 - December 1997, Pilot, Current Operations and Planning Officer, 20<sup>th</sup> Special Operations Squadron, Hurlburt Field, FL
7. December 1997 - June 2000, Chief Pilot, Safety Officer, 31<sup>st</sup> Special Operations Squadron, Osan AB, Republic of Korea
8. June 2000 - June 2002, Group Rotary Wing Standardization and Evaluation, 352 Special Operations Group, and Assistant Director of Operations, 21<sup>st</sup> Special Operations Squadron, RAF Mildenhall, United Kingdom
9. June 2002 - June 2003, Student, Air Command and Staff College, Maxwell AFB, AL
10. June 2003 - November 2004, Aide de Camp to the Commander, North American Aerospace Command and United States Northern Command, Peterson AFB, CO
11. November 2004 - April 2005, Special Assistant, to the Commander, North American Aerospace Command and United States Northern Command, Peterson AFB, CO
12. April 2005 - February 2006, Director of Operations, 551<sup>st</sup> Special Operations Squadron, Kirtland AFB, NM
13. February 2006 - Present, Commander, 551<sup>st</sup> Special Operations Squadron, Kirtland AFB, NM

**FLIGHT INFORMATION**

Rating: Senior Pilot

Flight hours: 3,000 hours

Aircraft flown: T-37, T-38, UH-1, MH-53J, MH-53M

**MAJOR AWARDS AND DECORATIONS**

Defense Meritorious Service Medal

Meritorious Service Medal with oak leaf cluster

Air Medal

Aerial Achievement Medal

Air Force Commendation Medal with oak leaf cluster

Army Achievement Medal

Joint Meritorious Unit Award with oak leaf cluster

Air Force Outstanding Unit Award with oak leaf cluster

Combat Readiness Medal

National Defense Service Medal with service star

Armed Forces Expeditionary Medal

Global War on Terrorism Service Medal

Korean Defense Service Medal

Armed Forces Service Medal

Air Force Expeditionary Service Ribbon

Air Force Overseas Ribbon-Short

Air Force Longevity Service Award Ribbon with two oak leaf clusters

Small Arms Expert Marksmanship Ribbon

Air Force Training Ribbon

NATO Medal for Bosnian Conflict

**OTHER ACHIEVEMENTS**

Lubbock, TX, Chamber of Commerce Citizenship Award

Distinguished Graduate, Pilot Instructor Training, Randolph AFB, TX

Distinguished Graduate, Squadron Officer's School, Maxwell AFB, AL

31<sup>st</sup> Special Operations Company Grade Officer of the Year, 1998

Air Force Special Operations Command, Safety Pilot of the Year Runner-up, 1999

353<sup>rd</sup> Special Operations Group Pilot of the Year, 1999

**EFFECTIVE DATES OF PROMOTION**

Second Lieutenant May 31, 1989

First Lieutenant May 31, 1991

Captain May 31, 1993

Major Sept. 1, 2000

Lieutenant Colonel Apr. 1, 2004

(Current as of February, 2006)